



## Executive Directive 4 (2006)

### **Establishing the Governor's Office for Substance Abuse Prevention (GOSAP) Collaborative**

#### **Importance of the Issue**

Recognizing that prevention efforts would be more efficient and effective if coordinated, in 2002, the Governor's Office for Substance Abuse Prevention (GOSAP) brought together key leadership representatives from 13 state agencies and organizations responsible for prevention programming throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia to form the GOSAP Collaborative.

Since that time, this informal body has used its collective knowledge and experience to develop and provide numerous resources and tools that are critical to achieving meaningful, community-level change, not only in substance abuse, but throughout the spectrum of community well-being.

#### **Establishing the Governor's Office for Substance Abuse Prevention Collaborative**

In recognition of its significant and growing accomplishments, and to capitalize on its resources, knowledge base and existing momentum, I hereby establish the GOSAP Collaborative. The Collaborative shall consist of members, representing the thirteen agencies of the Commonwealth that have prevention responsibilities. Additional members may be appointed at the Governor's discretion. Those agencies include:

- Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control
- Department of Criminal Justice Services
- Department of Education
- Department of Fire Programs
- Department of Health
- Department of Juvenile Justice
- Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services
- Department of Motor Vehicles

- Department of Social Services
- Governor's Office for Substance Abuse Prevention
- Virginia National Guard
- Virginia State Police
- Virginia Tobacco Settlement Foundation

The Director of GOSAP shall chair the Collaborative and staff support shall be provided by GOSAP and agencies of the Commonwealth that have prevention responsibilities and such other agencies as may be appropriate. All agencies of the Commonwealth shall cooperate fully with the Collaborative and provide all such information, data, and other support requested.

#### **Duties of the GOSAP Collaborative**

The Collaborative shall have the following powers and duties:

##### ***Collaboration to enhance capacity, improve efficiency and produce results:***

- Advise the Governor and his Cabinet on proposed policy and operational changes to facilitate interagency communication and collaboration in planning, implementing and monitoring prevention-related programs, services and strategies between state, local, public and private entities.
- Coordinate strategic planning efforts and initiatives to minimize duplication of effort and resources, to model interagency/inter-initiative collaboration and to work towards a seamless continuum of programs, services and strategies accessible to all Virginians.
- Develop and implement prevention planning and management standards to encourage communities to do one comprehensive community plan, reduce local duplication of effort and simplify funding application procedures.
- Maintain GOSAP's website to encourage and facilitate wider use of programs and practices proven effective by research, to promote related training opportunities and to disseminate prevention-related information throughout the Commonwealth.

##### ***Infrastructure to sustain and integrate prevention into practice:***

- Prioritize, coordinate and leverage Virginia's existing prevention resources to improve efficiency.
- Identify gaps in resources and recommend strategies to sustain prevention efforts, activities and initiatives throughout the Commonwealth.

- Examine other issues and make recommendations for related policy, initiatives and resources as may seem appropriate.

***Data to target resources and monitor results:***

- Collect, compile and disseminate data on the consequences, incidence and prevalence of preventable problem behaviors. The data shall be used, at both state and community levels, to allocate resources, plan programs, services and strategies, and monitor community-level change.
- Coordinate similar new and existing data collection and dissemination efforts to minimize duplication of effort and resources.
- Research and determine the feasibility of a statewide survey of youth to monitor attitudes, perceptions and behaviors that contribute to the health and well-being of Virginia's youth, families, schools and communities.

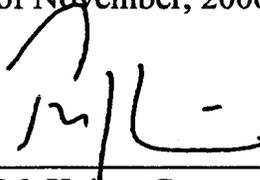
**Report to the Governor**

The GOSAP Collaborative shall report to the Governor annually, by October 30, through the Secretary of Public Safety, its activities, barriers, progress and achievements towards developing and implementing the Commonwealth's prevention infrastructure. Additionally, the report shall include recommendations to overcome barriers and to fully implement and sustain a prevention infrastructure in the Commonwealth.

**Effective Date of the Executive Directive**

This executive directive shall take effect upon signing and shall remain in full force and effect until June 30, 2010, unless amended or rescinded by further executive directive.

Given under my hand this 10th day of November, 2006.



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Timothy M. Kaine, Governor